

**MISCELLANEOUS ORIGINALS**  
***VEHICLE INDUSTRY REGISTRATION PROCEDURES***

**7**

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## *Miscellaneous Originals*

### 7.000 Introduction

This chapter covers **original** applications for vehicles not registered in any other state or country and **not** sold new by a franchised dealer.

### 7.010 Manufacturer's Certificate/Statement of Origin (CVC §4150[d])

Unless a **new** vehicle is sold by a licensed California dealer and an *Application for Registration of New Vehicle* (REG 397) is submitted, all applications for original registration and/or title of **new** vehicles and motorcycles **must** include a Manufacturer's Certificate/Statement of Origin (MCO/MSO).

**NOTE:** This does **not** include a direct import vehicle or a specially constructed (SPCNS) vehicle manufactured to resemble a recognized make.

Refer to Chapter 12, Nonresident Vehicles, for direct imports and section 7.190 of this chapter for SPCNS.

The MCO/MSO may be prepared at a factory, an assembly plant, or a business authorized by the manufacturer. All MCO/MSOs, except those for off-road equipment, should be produced in an identical format, and **must** include:

- The manufacturer's name and address.
- The make, identification number, body type, year model, and vehicle series or model name.
- The date and to whom the ownership was transferred from the manufacturer **and** the signature of the manufacturer's agent (a signature stamp is acceptable).

**NOTE:** Reassignments made in the space provided on the MCO/MSO **do not** need to be notarized for California, even if a notarization space is provided.

Although variations exist, an MCO/MSO *normally is*: 7" x 11" in size, on paper stock sixty (60) pound offset or equivalent durability, and printed with security features that include:

- Sensitized security paper without added optical brighteners that will not fluoresce under ultraviolet light.
- Engraved border and prismatic-rainbow printing with Copy Void Pantograph (the word "void" appears when the document is copied).
- Two complex colors (colors developed by using a mixture of two or more primary colors and black) **and** two security threads, with or without watermark, and/or intaglio print, with or without latent image, and/or security laminate.

**7.010 Manufacturer’s Certificate/Statement of Origin (CVC §4150[d]), *continued*****Duplicate MCO/MSO**

A duplicate copy of an MSO issued by the manufacturer **is** acceptable as proof of ownership.

- It **must** clearly state “Duplicate” on the face of the document, contain the same security features as the original MSO, and contain the identical descriptive information, except for the issuance date, as the original MSO.
- Any discrepancy **invalidates** the duplicate. A photocopy of the original is **not** acceptable.

**MSO Continuations**

- Any continuation to an MSO must clearly state “Continuation” on the face of the document and contain the same security features as the original.
- A “continuation” MSO must be used in conjunction with the original MSO.

**New Vehicle with MSO Registration Requirements**

When a new vehicle is sold by other than a California dealer and the vehicle has never been registered or titled in any state or country, the following are required:

- A properly completed *Application for Title or Registration* (REG 343).
- The Manufacturer’s Certificate/Statement of Origin (MCO/MSO) properly endorsed to the purchaser. Bills of Sale are acceptable in lieu of endorsement(s) on the MCO/MSO.
- A vehicle verification, **unless** the vehicle qualifies for a verification exception (see below).
- Weight Certificate for a commercial vehicles less than 10,001 pounds unladen.
  - If the vehicle weights 10,000 lbs or more, or is a trailer in the PTI program, the estimated unladen weight is required and may be shown on a *Statement of Facts* (REG 256).
- *Declaration of Gross Vehicle Weight/Combined Gross Vehicle Weight* (REG 4008).
  - Completed and signed by the owner for a commercial vehicle weighing 6001 pounds or more unladen (not required for pickups).
- A smog certification, if appropriate.
- The fees due from date of first use in California.

**7.010 Manufacturer's Certificate/Statement of Origin (CVC §4150[d]), *continued*****Vehicle Verification Exceptions**

A vehicle verification is not required for:

- A **new trailer** purchased in another state and eligible for registration under the Permanent Trailer Identification (PTI) Program provided:
  - the trailer has **never** been registered.
  - the trailer has **not** been modified, altered, or assembled from a kit.
  - a secured Manufacturer's Certificate/Statement of Origin (MCO/MSO) is submitted for the complete trailer.
- A **new commercial vehicle** purchased in another state as a complete vehicle **or** as an incomplete vehicle to which a new body was added to make a complete vehicle provided:
  - the vehicle has **never** been registered or issued International Registration Plan (IRP) registration in California or was issued IRP registration with the last 60 days only.
  - the vehicle has **not** been modified, altered, or assembled from a kit. Manufacturer's Certificate/Statement of Origin (MCO/MSO)
  - the vehicle has an unladen weight of 6,001 pounds or more.
  - the vehicle meets California emission standards.

**AND**

- a secured Manufacturer's Certificate/Statement of Origin (MCO/MSO) is submitted for the (complete) vehicle, **or**
- a secured MCO/MSO is submitted for both the cab/chassis and the body **and** the *Statement of Facts* (REG 256) from the owner which certifies the vehicle "was not constructed with any used components" and states the body type model (BTM) for a vehicle that does not meet California emission standards.

**7.020 New Vehicle Sales by a Non-Franchised Dealer**

A dealer **cannot** advertise for sale, sell, or purchase for resale any **new** vehicle of a line-make for which the dealer **does not** hold a franchise. (CVC §11713.1[f, 1])

**Exceptions (CVC §11713.1[f, 2])**

- A mobilehome.
- A recreational vehicle (motorhome, travel trailer, or camping trailer) as defined in *Health and Safety Code* (H&SC) §18010.
- A commercial coach as defined in H&SC §18001.8.
- An off-highway motor vehicle (OHV) subject to OHV identification.
- A commercial vehicle with a gross vehicle weight (GVW) rating of more than 10,000 pounds.

**7.020 New Vehicle Sales by a Non-Franchised Dealer, *continued*****Exceptions (CVC §11713.1[f, 2]), *continued***

- A manufactured home.
- A new vehicle that will be substantially altered or modified by a converter prior to sale.
- A vehicle purchased for export and exported outside the United States territorial limits **without being registered** by the department.

**IMPORTANT:** Some of the exceptions listed above are vehicles that are **not** registered by this department or **cannot** be registered as a condition of the exception.

**Registration Requirements**

When one of the exception vehicles is sold by a non-franchised dealer or a used vehicle dealer, the following are required:

- Properly completed *Application for Title or Registration* (REG 343).
- *Report of Sale, Used Vehicle* (REG 51) from the dealer to the retail buyer.
- Evidence of purchase of the new vehicle by the dealer. This may be:
  - an *Application for Registration of New Vehicle* (REG 397) from the franchised dealer, **or**
  - a certified copy of the factory invoice and a bill of sale from the manufacturer, **or**
  - the Manufacturer's Certificate/Statement of Origin (MCO/MSO) properly endorsed to the dealer. *Bills of Sale* are acceptable in lieu of endorsement(s) on the MCO/MSO.
- *Vehicle verification* (REG 343/REG 31), **unless** a REG 397 is part of the application.
- Weight Certificate for a Commercial Vehicle less than 10,001 pounds unladen *or* if the vehicle weighs 10,001 pounds or more, or is a trailer in the PTI program, the estimated unladen weight is required and must be shown on a *Statement of Facts* (REG 256).
- *Declaration of Gross Vehicle Weight/Combined Gross Vehicle Weight* (REG 4008) completed and signed by the owner for a commercial vehicle weighing 6,001 pounds or more unladen. (Not required for pickups)
- Smog certification, if appropriate.
- Fees due.

**7.030 U.S. Government Surplus Vehicles**

Surplus vehicles sold by the U.S. Government are considered an original registration.

**U.S. Government Surplus Registration Requirements**

- Completed *Application for Title or Registration* (REG 343).
- *Vehicle verification* (REG 343).
- Certificate of Release of Motor Vehicle, U.S. Government, Standard Form 97, **and** any bills of sale needed to establish a complete chain of ownership to the applicant.
- Odometer mileage disclosure on a *Vehicle/Vessel Transfer and Reassignment form* (REG 262), if applicable. See Chapter 5, Odometer Mileage Reporting, for odometer disclosure requirements.
- *Report of Sale, Used Vehicle* (REG 51), if sold by a California dealer.
- Weight certificate for a commercial vehicle weighing less than 10,001 pounds unladen. If the vehicle weighs 10,001 pounds or more, or if the vehicle is a trailer in the PTI program, the estimated unladen weight is required and must be shown on a *Statement of Facts* (REG 256).
- *Declaration of Gross Vehicle Weight/Combined Gross Vehicle Weight* (REG 4008) completed and signed by the owner for a commercial vehicle weighing 6,001 pounds or more unladen (not required for pickups).
- Smog certification, if appropriate.
- Collect the fees due.

**NOTE:** A Sale of a surplus government vehicle is exempt from use tax if the Standard form 97 shows that the vehicle was sold under **Government Code §201C or 481C**. Use tax is due if one of these code sections do not appear on the Standard form 97.

**7.040 Remanufactured Vehicle (CVC §§507.5, 507.8, 4153)**

A “**Remanufactured Vehicle**” is a vehicle that has been constructed by a licensed remanufacturer and consists of any used or reconditioned integral parts, including but not limited to, frame, engine, transmission, axles, brakes, or suspension.

- Remanufactured vehicles may be sold under a distinctive trade name.
- An existing vehicle incidentally repaired, restored, or modified by replacing or adding parts or accessories is **not** a remanufactured vehicle.

**7.040 Remanufactured Vehicle (CVC §§507.5, 507.8, 4153), *continued*****Remanufacturer**

A “**Remanufacturer**” is any person who, for commission, money, or other item of value, produces a vehicle, subject to registration, which consists of any used or reconditioned integral parts, including, but not limited to, frame, engine, transmission, axles, brakes, or suspension.

**NOTE:** A person who incidentally repairs, restores, or modifies existing vehicles by replacing or adding parts or accessories **is not** a remanufacturer.

A licensed remanufacturer **must**:

- Identify the vehicle based on the existing Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) when a used frame is incorporated into the vehicle.
- Die-stamp the VIN on the frame when a new VIN is assigned.
- Identify the make as the authorized remanufactured make. The original make name must be removed from the vehicle.
- Identify the year model as the year of manufacture shown on the *Certificate of Remanufactured Vehicle* (REG 8).
- Disclose on the VIN plate or label that the vehicle is remanufactured and contains used and/or reconditioned parts.
- Remove the original manufacturer’s trade name unless the original manufacturer and the remanufacturer are the same.

***Certificate of Remanufactured Vehicle (REG 8)***

An **original** *Certificate of Remanufactured Vehicle* (REG 8) endorsed from the remanufacturer to the dealer and from the dealer to the retail purchaser **must** accompany a remanufactured vehicle registration application.

A photocopy **is not** acceptable.

***Application for Registration Remanufactured Vehicle (REG 7)***

Remanufactured vehicle dealers **must** complete an *Application for Registration Remanufactured Vehicle* (REG 7) upon first sale of the remanufactured vehicle.

**Completing the REG 7**

<i>Section</i>	<i>Information Required</i>
Vehicle I.D. Number	the complete vehicle identification number (VIN).
Motorcycle Engine No. or Add'l ID No.	the complete engine number and number of cc's for motorcycles only. If more than one VIN appears on the vehicle, enter the second VIN

## Completing the REG 7 (continued)

<i>Section</i>	<i>Information Required</i>
Make	the authorized remanufactured make of the vehicle, <b>not</b> the original make nor the model.
Body Type	the body type abbreviation used by the department. Refer to Chapter 30, Inquiries, for abbreviations.
Equipment No.	equipment number only for fleet vehicles.
Date First Sold as a Remanufactured Vehicle	the date the purchaser: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• signed a purchase contract or security agreement, and</li> <li>• took physical possession or delivery of the vehicle. (CVC §5901d)</li> </ul>
For Trailer Coaches Only	the length and width in inches for a trailer coach <b>or</b> a camp trailer.
Yr Model	the year of remanufacture as the year model.
Motive Power	the motive power for <b>all</b> vehicles. The fuel types are: Gasoline      Diesel      Electric      Methanol Natural Gas   Trailer   Propane      Hybrid
Number of Axles	the number of axles only for commercial motor vehicles and trailers.
Unladen Weight	the unladen (empty) weight for all commercial motor vehicles and trailers.
County of Residence	the buyer's county of residence.
Date First Operated	the date first operated by the retail purchaser.
Sold To	<p><b>Buyer(s) Name(s):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Print the true full name of <b>each</b> buyer as shown on the buyer's driver license or ID card <b>and</b> check the "AND" or "OR" box, if there is more than one buyer/owner.</li> <li>• Documents are issued with "AND" if a box is not checked.</li> <li>• Refer to <b>Registration to Co-Owners</b> information in Section 1.050 of this handbook.</li> </ul> <p><b>Leased Vehicles:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Print the name of the lessor followed by the abbreviation "LSR" <b>and</b> the name(s) of the lessee followed by the abbreviation "LSE."</li> <li>• <b>Do not</b> join the names with "and" or "or."</li> <li>• Refer to <b>Registration of Leased Vehicles</b> information in Section 1.055 of this handbook.</li> </ul>



## Completing the REG 7 (continued)

<i>Section</i>	<i>Information Required</i>
Sold To, <i>continued</i>	<p><b>Business or Residence Address:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Show the buyer's residence and mailing address.</li> </ul> <p><b>Legal Owner or Lienholder:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Show the name and mailing address of the legal owner/lienholder <b>or</b> the word "None" <b>and</b> initial the entry.</li> <li>• A legible impression by a 12-point type rubber stamp is acceptable.)</li> </ul> <p><b>NOTE:</b> Dealer applications without an entry in the legal owner section are returned to the dealer.</p>
Passenger Vehicle for Hire	Check the appropriate box.
Certification: The dealer is certifying to the correctness of all information furnished and to the vehicle's compliance with the provisions of the <i>Vehicle Code</i> .	<p><b>Signature of Applicant:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The buyer's usual signature <b>or</b> a signature by power of attorney.</li> <li>• Refer to Section 1.055 for signature requirements.</li> </ul> <p><b>Dealer:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enter the dealer's name, address, and dealer number.</li> </ul> <p><b>By:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An authorized representative for the dealer must sign.</li> </ul> <p><b>Salesperson's Name and No.:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enter the salesperson's name and number.</li> </ul>
Lower portion of the REG 7 application (Temporary Identification or Customer's Copy)	<p>Enter all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The vehicle descriptive information.</li> <li>• The name of the registered owner(s).</li> <li>• The dealer and salesperson numbers.</li> <li>• The odometer mileage reading.</li> </ul>
Certificate of Cost	<p>The full purchase price of the vehicle.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Do not</b> include sales tax, license fees, or financing costs.</li> <li>• <b>Do not</b> deduct the value of any trade-in.</li> </ul>

Distribution of the REG 7 copies is identical to that of the *Application for Registration of New Vehicle* (REG 397).

Refer to Chapter 6, New Vehicles Sold by California Dealers, of this handbook for the instructions.

**7.040 Remanufactured Vehicle (CVC §§507.5, 507.8, 4153), *continued*****Remanufactured Vehicle Registration Requirements**

- *Completed Application for Registration of a Remanufactured Vehicle* (REG 7).
- The **original** *Certificate of Remanufactured Vehicle* (REG 8) endorsed from the remanufacturer to the dealer, and from the dealer to the retail purchaser.
- *Vehicle Verification* (REG 31/REG 343).
- Weight certificate for a commercial vehicle weighing less than 10,001 pounds. If the vehicle weighs 10,001 pounds or more, or if the vehicle is a trailer in the PTI program, the estimated unladen weight is required and must be shown on a *Statement of Facts* (REG 256).
- *Declaration of Gross Vehicle Weight/Combined Gross Vehicle Weight* (REG 4008) completed and signed by the owner for a commercial vehicle weighing 6,001 pounds or more unladen (Not required for pickups).
- Smog certification, if appropriate.
- Fees.

**7.050 Vehicles with Unavailable Records (CVC §5911)**

- Vehicles which have **not** been registered within the department's four-year file record and no longer appear in the department's database, are referred to as "unavailable records."
  - Nonresident applications are not included in this category.
- The unavailable records procedure **can not** be used for a vehicle located out-of-state.
  - The vehicle **must be** physically located in California.

**Applications with original California title and/or registration card**

Unavailable record applications submitted **with** a California title **and/or** an original (**not** a photocopy) expired registration card are processed as an original registration transaction.

The requirements are:

- The *Certificate of Title or an Application for Duplicate Title* (REG 227).
  - If an *Application for Duplicate Title* is being submitted and the registration card shows a legal owner, a notarized lien satisfied must be obtained from the legal owner.
  - If applicable, the title or *Application for Duplicate Title* must be endorsed for transfer if the applicant is not the owner shown on the certificates.
- Completed *Application for Title or Registration* (REG 343).
- *Vehicle Verification* (REG 31/REG 343).

7.050 Vehicles with Unavailable Records (CVC §5911), *continued***Applications with original California title and/or registration card,  
*continued***

**NOTE:** A vehicle verification **is not** required for a vehicle to be dismantled by a licensed dismantler.

- Used motorcycles with unavailable records or with **documents from a foreign country, must** be referred to the CHP for verification.

**EXCEPTIONS:**

- Non-resident used motorcycles with documents from another state.
  - Motorcycles that will be registered off-highway (OHV) only, including requests for **“Title Only”** for OHV motorcycle.
- *Certificate of Non-Operation* (REG 102) **or** a *Statement of Facts* (REG 256) regarding non-operation of the vehicle up to the date of application, may be accepted **unless** the vehicle is a trailer coach.
    - Trailer coaches **must** be currently registered at all times.
  - Weight certificate for a commercial vehicle weighing less than 10,001 pounds.
    - If the vehicle weighs 10,001 pounds or more, or if the vehicle is a trailer in the PTI program, the estimated unladen weight is required and must be shown on a *Statement of Facts* (REG 256).
    - The unladen weight shown on the title or registration card may be used if the owner certifies on a *Statement of Facts* (REG 256) that the weight has not changed.
  - *Declaration of Gross Vehicle Weight/Combined Gross Vehicle Weight* (REG 4008) completed and signed by the owner for a commercial vehicle weighing 6,001 pounds or more unladen (not required for pickups).
  - Odometer mileage disclosure on a *Vehicle/Vessel Transfer and Reassignment form* (REG 262), if applicable.
    - See Chapter 5, Odometer Mileage Reporting, for odometer disclosure requirements.
  - *Report of Sale, Used Vehicle* (REG 51), if sold by a California dealer
  - Smog certification, if appropriate.
  - Surrender of the old license plates. Under certain conditions, the owner of a collector vehicle may be permitted to retain old license plates that are no longer on the database. ***See the following section for more information.***
  - Collect all fees due from the date of first operation. If ownership of the vehicle:
    - ***is not changing***, retain the VLF class on the surrendered California title or the original registration card.
    - ***is changing***, reclassify the vehicle based on the new owner’s purchase price.

**NOTE:** Transfer fees are not due.

7.050 Vehicles with Unavailable Records (CVC §5911), *continued***Retention of old license plates on collector vehicles**

Under specific circumstances, the department may allow a car collector to retain the old plates on the vehicle.

- The **original** California title or registration showing the plate number originally assigned to that vehicle **must** be submitted with the application.
- The plate configuration **must** be available and **not** in a series reserved for issuance as a special interest or other plate series.
- Check with your local DMV office.

**Applications without original California title and/or registration card**

Unavailable record applications submitted **without** a California title **or** with only a photocopy of an expired registration card are processed as an original registration transaction. The requirements are:

- Completed *Application for Title or Registration* (REG 343).
- *Vehicle Verification* (REG 31/REG 343).

**NOTE:** Used motorcycles with unavailable records, **or with documents from a foreign country must** be referred to the CHP for verification.

**EXCEPTIONS:**

- Non-resident used motorcycles with documents from another state.
- Motorcycles that will be registered off-highway (OHV) only, including requests for “**Title Only**” for OHV motorcycle.

- *Statement of Facts* (REG 256) completed by the applicant stating:
  - how, when, and from whom the vehicle was acquired, **and**
  - what effort was made to contact the last owner to obtain evidence of ownership, why it was unobtainable, **and**
  - the current value of the vehicle. Refer to Chapter 23, Bonds and Certifications, to determine if a bond is required.
- *Certificate of Non-Operation* (REG 102), **or** *Statement of Facts* (REG 256) regarding non-operation of the vehicle, may be accepted up to the date of application **unless** the vehicle is a trailer coach.
  - Trailer coaches must be currently registered at all times.
- *Report of Sale, Used Vehicle* (REG 51), if sold by a California dealer.
- Odometer mileage disclosure on a *Vehicle/Vessel Transfer and Reassignment Form* (REG 262), if applicable.
  - See Chapter 5, Odometer Mileage Reporting, for odometer disclosure requirements.

**7.050 Vehicles with Unavailable Records (CVC §5911), *continued*****Applications without original California title and/or registration card, *continued***

- Weight certificate for a commercial vehicle weighing less than 10,001 pounds.
  - If the vehicle weighs 10,001 pounds or more, or if the vehicle is a trailer in the PTI program, the estimated unladen weight is required and must be shown on a *Statement of Facts* (REG 256).
- *Declaration of Gross Vehicle Weight/Combined Gross Vehicle Weight* (REG 4008) completed and signed by the owner for a commercial vehicle weighing 6,001 pounds or more unladen. (Not required for pickups)
- Smog certification, if appropriate.
- Surrender of the old license plates, if available.
  - The license plates that may be on the vehicle cannot be retained unless the paperwork shows that the plates were originally assigned to the vehicle and the owner wishes to keep the plates.
- Collect all fees due from date of first operation.
  - Use the cost information on the REG 343 to establish the new asterisk year and VLF class.

<b>NOTE:</b> Transfer fees are not due.
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**Motorcycles with unavailable records**

- Used motorcycles with no record on the department's files must be referred to the CHP for verification of the identification and engine numbers.
- The CHP completes the verification of the motorcycle using the back of the *Application for Title or Registration* (REG 343/31).
- Applications for registration of a nonresident motorcycle with an out-of-state title or registration card **do not** require CHP verification and can be verified by a department employee or a licensed vehicle verifier.

**Vehicle verification alternative**

- Where vehicle verification services **are not** available, **and** verification would require moving the vehicle to the DMV office by trailer, a tracing of the VIN may be accepted with the DMV manager's approval.
- A *Statement of Facts* (REG 256) from the owner **must be** submitted with the tracing that explains the steps taken to obtain a vehicle verification, and why the vehicle cannot be brought to a DMV office.

**7.060 Specially Constructed Vehicles (CVC §§580 and 4153)**

A specially constructed vehicle (SPCNS) is a vehicle built for private use, **not** for resale, and **not** constructed by a licensed manufacturer or remanufacturer.

- Specially constructed vehicles may be built from a kit, new or used parts, a combination of new and used parts, or from a vehicle reported as dismantled, as required by CVC §§5500 or 11520 which, when reconstructed, **does not** resemble the original make and model of the vehicle that was dismantled.
- A specially constructed vehicle **does not** include a vehicle which has been repaired or restored to its original design by replacing parts or modified from its original design, but not completely assembled from parts, which is still recognizable as the original make.

— **Example #1**—A Volkswagen modified with a conversion kit to give the appearance of having the grill of a Rolls Royce is **not** registered as a specially constructed vehicle, because it still resembles and would be recognized as a Volkswagen.

This also applies to a Volkswagen modified with a “Baja Kit” in which the fenders, engine compartment lid, and possibly the front end, are modified, but leave the vehicle still recognizable as a Volkswagen.

— **Example #2**—A motorcycle, such as a Harley Davidson, modified only with extended forks but still recognizable as a Harley Davidson is **not** registered as a SPCNS.

However, if a motorcycle is constructed entirely from parts, even if they are Harley Davidson parts, the vehicle **cannot** be registered as a Harley Davidson since it was not constructed by a manufacturer or remanufacturer; it **must** be registered as a SPCNS.

— **Example #3**—Vehicles that are modified by a body change only, when the Certificate of Title held by the owner shows the correct make, is **not** registered as a SPCNS.

- All specially constructed (SPCNS) motor vehicles and SPCNS trailers weighing 6001 pounds or more unladen **must be referred** to the California Highway Patrol (CHP) for inspection and determination of, or assignment of a VIN.
- SPCNS trailers weighing less than 6001 pounds, except logging dollies, are assigned a VIN by the DMV unless the original unaltered VIN is on the frame.

**Smog Certification**

The first smog certification for a SPCNS vehicle must be issued by a BAR Referee Center.

- Once the vehicle is certified by the referee, a BAR label will be affixed to the vehicle.
- Any licensed Smog Check station may perform subsequent inspections as long as the BAR label remains in place and the vehicle’s emissions equipment remains the same.

**7.060 Specially Constructed Vehicles (CVC §§580 and 4153), *continued*****SPCNS registration requirements**

- *Application for Title or Registration* (REG 343) or an alternative, completed and signed.
  - Power-of-attorney may be used for the signatures of the registered owner.
  - The cost information must include the materials and labor costs, even if provided by or done by the applicant. No year model is shown.
- *Vehicle Verification* (REG 31/REG 343), only if the application is a trailer and the original trailer VIN is on the frame; or the completed REG 124 from CHP or DMV, if the vehicle is other than a trailer.
- *Statement of Construction* (REG 5036) completed by the owner. The total value of the vehicle as shown in Section 5, Cost Information and Vehicle Value, must agree with the cost information shown on the REG 343.
- Bills of Sale, receipts, and invoices for all major component parts (body, frame, transmission, and engine).
  - A Manufacture's Certificate/Statement of Origin is only acceptable as proof of ownership for the part(s) described.
  - A junk receipt issued by the department may also be submitted for the major component parts.
- Satisfactory evidence of ownership for the materials used in constructing the vehicle must be submitted as part of the application.
- *Motor Vehicle Ownership Surety Bond* (REG 5057) or alternative, if the vehicle is built from:
  - an altered vehicle, or component parts of such a vehicle, registered or formerly registered in California or any state, *or*
  - materials not previously part of another vehicle to which a VIN plate is issued.

The penal sum of the bond (the dollar amount that the surety is liable for under the bond) must be equal to the amount of the fair market value of the vehicle, including parts and labor.

**NOTE:** A Motor Vehicle Bond is not required if the documents submitted as evidence of the ownership identify:

- a verified VIN on the vehicle or the value of the completed vehicle, or
- component parts (body, frame, transmission, and engine) for which bills of sale cannot be obtained, is \$4,999 or less.

See Chapter 23, Bonds and Certifications, for additional information regarding bonds.

- Official brake and light adjustment certificates.
  - When an official brake and light station that inspects specific vehicles, such as motorcycles and large commercial vehicles, is not located within a reasonable distance, a *Statement of Facts* (REG 256) from a repair shop attesting that the brakes and lights are in proper working order, is acceptable.

**7.060 Specially Constructed Vehicles (CVC §§580 and 4153), *continued*****SPCNS registration requirements, *continued***

— Brake and light certificates are **not** required for trailers weighing under 3,000 pounds gross vehicle weight.

**NOTE:** Fleet owners who operate a licensed inspection and maintenance station may submit official brake and light adjustment certificates from that station for a motor truck with three or more axles and an unladen weight of more than 6,000 pounds, or for a truck tractor.

- Weight certificate for a commercial vehicle weighing less than 10,001 pounds.
  - If the vehicle weighs 10,001 pounds or more, or if the vehicle is a trailer in the PTI program, the estimated unladen weight is required and must be shown on a *Statement of Facts* (REG 256).
- *Declaration of Gross Vehicle Weight/Combined Gross Vehicle Weight* (REG 4008) completed and signed by the owner for a commercial vehicle weighing 6,001 pounds or more unladen. (Not required for pickups)
- Smog certification, if appropriate, or a Certificate of Sequence and BAR referee datasheet, if applicable. See section 7.070 for information on the Certificate of Sequence.
- All fees due. Use tax is not due if the owner who constructed the vehicle is registering the vehicle in their name.

**7.070 SPCNS Certificate of Sequence (CVC §4750.1)**

A SPCNS Certificate of Sequence allows an owner of a SPCNS vehicle to choose whether the smog requirements for the vehicle are based on the model year of the engine used in the vehicle or the year the vehicle is being registered.

- Each calendar year, a Certificate of Sequence is issued by the department to the first 500 owners of specially constructed (SPCNS) vehicles who:
  - present any type of registration transaction for an SPCNS vehicle, *or*
  - request issuance of a Certificate of Sequence only (when the vehicle is not subject to a registration transaction).
- After the 500 are issued each year, SPCNS vehicles will be evaluated for emission requirements by BAR based on the criteria for SPCNS vehicles. Contact a BAR referee for further information.

**7.080 Kit Vehicles**

A kit vehicle is a vehicle that is built for private use, not for resale, and **is not** constructed by a licensed manufacturer or remanufacturer.

- Kit vehicles are often replicas of well-known and expensive classics, but can also be commercial vehicles and trailers.



**7.080 Kit Vehicles, *continued***

- A kit vehicle is registered by the kit manufacturer's VIN (they are exempt from the federal 17-digit VIN requirement) and does **not** have a model year. The make abbreviation is the **kit make** followed by the abbreviation **KT**.
- All **kit** motor vehicles and kit trailers weighing 6,001 pounds or more unladen, **and** vehicles having more than one VIN **must be** referred to the California Highway Patrol (CHP) for a VIN verification or assignment
- A "CAL" number is assigned by the department to trailers with an unladen weight of 6,000 pounds or less, **unless** the original unaltered VIN remains on the frame.

**Commercial Vehicles Assembled from Kits (CVC §580)**

Manufacturers of large commercial vehicles sell kits which can be made into complete vehicles.

- These kits usually consist of a frame, steering gear, cab (complete with wiring and instruments), radiator, hood, front fenders, and in most cases, the front axle and wheels.
- The installation of an engine, transmission, rear axles, wheel, and tires makes the kit a complete vehicle.
- The installed components may have been purchased separately in new or used condition **or** removed from a vehicle which is no longer serviceable.
- Installation into the kit may have been done at an assembly plant, a truck repair shop, or by an individual.

**Commercial Vehicle Kit Make Abbreviations**

Use the following chart to make abbreviations for commercial kit vehicles:

<i>Make</i>	<i>Abbreviation</i>
Autocar	AUTKT
Diamond	DMDKT
International	INTKT
Kenworth	KENKT

<i>Make</i>	<i>Abbreviation</i>
Mack	MCKKT
Peterbilt	PETKT
White	WHIKT
White Freightliner	WFTKT

**Registration Requirements**

- Completed *Application for Title or Registration* (REG 343).
  - The REG 343 **must include** the labor cost, even if provided or done by the applicant.
- *Vehicle Verification* (REG 31/REG 343), **only** if the application is for a trailer and the original trailer VIN is on the frame; **or** the completed REG 124 from CHP or DMV, if the vehicle is other than a trailer.
  - **Do not** show a year model for kit vehicles.

7.070 Kit Vehicles, *continued*Registration Requirements, *continued*

- The Manufacturer's Certificate of Origin or a receipt or invoice identifying the vehicle.
  - The invoice or receipt from the seller may be used in lieu of signatures on the Certificate of Origin or bill(s) of sale.
- Bill(s) of sale **or** a junk receipt for the major component parts (engine, frame, transmission, and body).
  - If a Certificate of Origin is submitted, it may be accepted as a bill of sale **only** for the parts described. However, a Certificate of Origin may be presented as evidence of ownership for a complete vehicle **only** if it is an unassembled trailer kit.
  - If the vehicle was assembled from parts of a vehicle owned by the applicant, the applicant must have reported the vehicle "junked."
- A *Motor Vehicle Ownership Surety Bond* (REG 5057) if the vehicle value is \$5,000 or more **and** the required receipts for the major component parts are not submitted.
- A *Statement of Construction* (REG 5036) completed and signed by the owner. The total value on the REG 5036 must agree with the market value shown on the REG 343.
- Official brake and light adjustment certificates.
  - When an official brake and light station that inspects specific vehicles such as motorcycles and large commercial vehicles is not located within a reasonable distance, a *Statement of Facts* (REG 256) from a repair shop attesting that the brakes and lights are in proper working order is acceptable.
  - Brake and light certificates **are not** required for trailers weighing **under** 3,000 lbs. gross vehicle weight.
- Weight certificate for a commercial vehicle weighing less than 10,001 pounds.
  - If the vehicle weighs 10,001 pounds or more, or if the vehicle is a trailer in the PTI program, the estimated unladen weight is required and must be shown on a *Statement of Facts* (REG 256).
- *Declaration of Gross Vehicle Weight/Combined Gross Vehicle Weight* (REG 4008) completed and signed by the owner for a commercial vehicle weighing 6,001 pounds or more unladen. (Not required for pickups)
- *Report of Sale, Used Vehicle* (REG 51), if applicable
- Smog certification, if appropriate.
- Fees due.